

# California State Journal of Medicine

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Contributors, subscribers and readers will find important information on the sixteenth advertising page following the reading matter.

VOL. XVI

FEBRUARY, 1918

Number 2

## ANNUAL MEETING AT DEL MONTE.

The annual meeting of the California State Medical Society will be held at the Del Monte Hotel, April 16, 17 and 18. A program of timely and unusual interest is being prepared. The place and season of the meeting insure a splendid outing for every doctor in attendance. Special announcements and a tentative program will be published next month. It should be the pleasure of every doctor in the state to attend this meeting if he can possibly do so. He is the one who will profit most by attendance. Give the matter serious thought and make your reservations early.

## RAILROAD RATES:

A railroad rate of one and one-half lowest one way first-class fare per capita for the round trip on the receipt-certificate plan from all points in California, provided fifty (50) or more are in attendance, will prevail. When you buy your ticket to go to Del Monte, pay the full fare and get a receipt-certificate. When you get to Del Monte, present this to the State Secretary to be signed and then when you get your return ticket, hand this receipt to the agent and he will give you a return ticket for one-half fare.

Do not fail to get the receipt-certificate, or to have it signed by the State Secretary, for if you do, you have no redress.

Every delegate should make it his first business to attend this session as matters of the utmost

importance will come up for consideration. Questions have arisen in which every member of the Society is vitally interested and the delegates who represent large numbers of our members who cannot attend, should be sure to be present, even if at a personal sacrifice.

Secretaries of county units should make it their special duty to attend this meeting so that they may be in a position to explain to their members just what was done and why.

County secretaries can talk more effectively to their members on Society matters by having attended this meeting.

Hotel Rates: Hotel Rates are on the American plan.

Single room without bath, \$5.50 per day, one person.

Double room without bath, \$10.00 per day, two persons.

Single room with bath, \$6.50 per day, one person.

Double room with bath, \$12.00 per day, two persons.

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM.

A large number of good papers have been secured for the coming meeting at Del Monte and a tentative program will be published in next month's Journal. Naturally in these times various problems connected with the war work are of paramount interest and accordingly arrangements have been made to have the same presented. There will be sufficient variety to the subjects, however, to insure the presentation of a program of unusual value and interest.

the responsibility. One of my wards is at present in immediate charge of a Canadian captain from a casualty clearing station, for the institution of the newer methods of wound treatment. Of these the most frequently employed are the Carrel treatment, and Rutherford Morrison's treatment with bismuth, iodoform and paraffine—"Bip." The results are astonishing, and are revolutionizing the treatment of compound fractures, and dirty old suppurating wounds of the soft parts. Instead of standing by and helplessly watching the patient fight it out with pus, we are enabled to interfere actively, and shorten the duration of the infection. With time, experience and a larger supply of assistants we hope to introduce these methods into the other wards. They require, of course, a larger staff, but from their time-saving attributes increase the "turn-over" of a hospital enormously. The Thomas knee splint, with its modifications has replaced practically all others in the treatment of fractures of the long bones.

Besides the treatment of those suppurating wounds a number of other things impress the newcomer. The first is, the great amount of nerve surgery. Where one sees one nerve operation at home, one sees 100 here. We have quite a remarkable nerve man to whom the patients are sent for localization and diagnosis of the lesion, and who calls the turn with great regularity. Then the nerve is sutured. The operation is rarely done until several months after the wound has closed, for fear of lighting up the old infection from the scar. To see some of these men dig out the nerve from the scar tissue is a beautiful thing, and then we all start in working on our anatomy. Any operation done at the site of the wound, within six months, is always preceded by a dose of tetanus antitoxin.

Another interesting branch of work is that upon tendons. These also must often be dug out of scar tissue, possibly enclosed in a fascia flap, and then sutured. Excisions of scars are frequent.

Bone grafting and ordinary open and closed fracture work come in for a large share of our attention. Functional disorders often simulate actual nerve lesions, and must receive their appropriate treatment. If any of us fancy abdominal surgery he will find a reasonable amount of that also.

The technic is different from ours, but has much that we might copy. Possibly there is less scrubbing of the hands before operation, but I should say that the fingers are less in the wound. The instrument nurse never touches the instruments, but handles them with forceps. No one may enter the operating room without a sterile gown, cap, mouth-guard and leggings which enclose the shoes and legs. This is in pleasing contrast to the somewhat free and easy customs of the visitor in our operating rooms. Military discipline prevails. We are under the direction of a lieutenant-colonel.

Two of our Americans are daily expecting transfer to other stations, and then our service probably will be doubled or trebled.

No one who comes over need fear that his ability will not be recognized. The opportunity is boundless. The difficulty is to measure up to our job, and to get away with the work that is offered us. We are treated generously, and are really right in the family. It is an experience that money could not buy before the war. If any of your readers with a good, modern surgical training wants a chance let them write to Major Elliott G. Brackett, Surgeon-General's Office, Washington, and make application. They would get a first lieutenant's commission, with a good prospect of promotion. Doubtless a man with chemical, bacteriological, or pathological leanings would find a chance to indulge his proclivities as a side line, to the advantage of himself, his associates and his patients. I have learned more in a few weeks than in a year. The enlarged view and the mental stimulus are not the least part of the work. No

one seems in much of a hurry to go home. Our greatest loss possibly is the climate, but as most of the men are from the east, their loss is not considerable. As for me, I believe I should choose the Santa Clara Valley as a place of permanent residence. In any event we have not yet experienced the truth of Sherman's renowned saying. As a Frenchman once put it: "C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre."

Faithfully yours,

LEONARD W. ELY.

## Military Medical News

### CALIFORNIA PHYSICIANS IN NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

- S: Surgeon.
- P. A. S.: Passed Assistant Surgeon.
- A. S.: Assistant Surgeon.
- All U. S. N. R. F., except as marked U. S. N.
- A. S.—Ainslie, C. A., U. S. N.
- A. S.—Andrus, C. L., U. S. N.—San Diego Dist. Forces.
- A. S.—Ashmore, F.—Headquarters, 12th N. Dist., Sheldon Bldg.
- P. A. S.—Barnett, G. D.—Unit No. 2.
- A. S.—Behlow, W. W., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Brown, C. E., U. S. N.
- A. S.—Bryant, F. J.—417 Market St.
- A. S.—Butler, E. W.—Unit No. 2.
- P. A. S.—Barkan, H.
- P. A. S.—Boardman, W. W.
- P. A. S.—Boller, P.—Unit No. 3.
- A. S.—Burke, E. E.—Unit No. 3.
- A. S.—Baldwin, G.—N. R. T. C., San Pedro.
- A. S.—Blake, W. P.—N. T. C., San Pedro.
- A. S.—Brown, C. W.—Mare Island.
- A. S.—Byrne, J. R., U. S. N.—Headquarters 12th N. Dist., Sheldon Bldg.
- A. S.—Christiansen, R. C., U. S. N.—Mare Island.
- A. S.—Connor, S. W.—N. T. Sta., San Francisco.
- S.—Cochran, A.
- P. A. S.—Charlton, A. T.—Unit No. 3.
- P. A. S.—Clark, V. G.
- P. A. S.—Cowan, J. R.—Unit No. 3.
- P. A. S.—Cowan, J. F.
- A. S.—Chamberlain, H. H.—Unit No. 2.
- A. S.—Chamberlain, W. E.—Unit No. 2.
- A. S.—Cohn, M. L.—N. R. T. C., San Pedro.
- A. S.—Cook, E. P.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Corey, D., U. S. N.—U. S. S. Schurz, care P. M.
- A. S.—Crosian, J. W.—Unit No. 3.
- A. S.—Ducher, J. E.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Donnell, R. H.—Naval Air Station, San Diego.
- A. S.—Dorn, N. F.—N. T. C., San Diego.
- A. S.—Duncan, H. B.—417 Market St.
- A. S.—Dunn, T. B.—Manila, P. I.
- A. S.—Davis, B. P., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Dickson, A. R.—Unit No. 3.
- A. S.—Fielder, R. L.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- S.—Frick, J. D.
- P. A. S.—Fredericks, D. D.
- A. S.—Goetsch, A.—U. S. T. C., San Francisco.
- A. S.—Goss, O. R.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Guinan, E. R., U. S. N.—Guam.
- P. A. S.—Gilman, P. K.—Unit No. 2.
- A. S.—Harman, B. M.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- A. S.—Herren, D.—U. S. N. Hosp., Las Animas, Colo.
- A. S.—Holzberg, H. L.—N. T. S. T., San Francisco, Cal.
- A. S.—Horner, R. W., U. S. N.—Unit No. 3.
- A. S.—Hughes, F. A.—Mare Island Navy Yard.
- S.—Hewlett, A. W.—Unit No. 2.
- S.—Hill, H. P.

A. S.—Hammond, T. V.—Recruiting Sta., San Diego, Cal.  
 A. S.—Harvey, J. E., U. S. N.—N. T. C., San Pedro, Cal.  
 A. S.—Horner, W. D., U. S. N.—Unit No. 2.  
 A. S.—Hunt, R. H.—N. R. T. C., San Pedro, Cal.  
 P. A. S.—Inman, J. C.—Unit No. 2.  
 A. S.—Jacobs, Jay, U. S. N.—Naval Aux. Reserve, Ferry Bldg.  
 A. S.—Josephs, L.—Unit No. 3.  
 A. S.—Keene, W. P.—Marine Barracks, San Diego.  
 A. S.—Kris, R. E., U. S. N.—Mare Island Hospital.  
 A. S.—Krummes, H. P.—U. S. S. Gulfport.  
 A. S.—Lengenfelder, G. P.—Navy Recruiting Sta., Denver, Colo.  
 A. S.—Long, T. F.—Mare Island, Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Lund, Leval—N. T. C., San Diego, Cal.  
 P. A. S.—Langnecker, H. I.—Unit No. 2.  
 A. S.—Linde, F. G.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Lorentz, R., Jr., U. S. N.  
 A. S.—Lundegaard, E. M.  
 A. S.—McCune, R. A.—Navy Recruiting Sta., Salt Lake.  
 P. A. S.—Miller, J. E.—Navy Recruiting Sta., Sacramento.  
 A. S.—Milligan, C. F.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Minaker, A. J.—N. T. S., San Francisco, Cal.  
 A. S.—Muller, Fredk. W.—N. T. C., San Diego, Cal.  
 P. A. S.—Morton, L. D.—Unit No. 3.  
 A. S.—McCarthy, F. J., U. S. N.  
 A. S.—McNab, J. R.  
 A. S.—McNulty, A. H.—N. T. S., San Francisco, Cal.  
 A. S.—Moore, J. R.  
 A. S.—Mullally, E. F., U. S. N.  
 A. S.—Miller, F. W.—Unit No. 3.  
 P. A. S.—McKee, A. B.  
 A. S.—Olds, W. H.—Unit No. 3.  
 A. S.—O'Neill, B. J.  
 A. S.—Owen, B. J.  
 A. S.—Parkin, V.—Unit No. 3.  
 A. S.—Pomeroy, E. S.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Price, M. J.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Pillmore, G. V.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Ragle, H. E.—N. T. S., San Francisco, Cal.  
 A. S.—Runner, J. F.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Rodenbaugh, F. H., U. S. N.—N. T. S., Pearl Harbor, T. H.  
 A. S.—Pruett, J. F., U. S. N.—U. S. S. Venetia.  
 A. S.—Reed, A. C.  
 A. S.—Reuling, J. R., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Ruddock, J. C., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Ryan, R. C.—N. R. T. C., San Pedro.  
 S.—Rixford, E.  
 P. A. S.—Richardson, W. W.  
 A. S.—Searles, H. H., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Sooy, D. W., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Spalding, O. B.—N. R. T. C., San Pedro.  
 A. S.—Stadtherr, E. F.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Schmidt, A. E., U. S. N.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 S.—Stillman, S.—Unit No. 2.  
 P. A. S.—Schaller, W. F.  
 A. S.—Saverin, A. E.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 A. S.—Schwartz, J. L.—Unit No. 3.  
 A. S.—Taylor, J. C. W.—U. S. S. Ajax.  
 A. S.—Teter, H. H.—Navy Recruiting Sta., Salt Lake.  
 P. A. S.—Tebbe, W. E.—Unit No. 2.  
 P. A. S.—Thorne, I. W.—Unit No. 2.  
 P. A. S.—Tupper, R. B.—Unit No. 2.  
 A. S.—Thomas, R. W.—U. S. S. Buffalo.

A. S.—Thompson, H. A.—N. R. T. C., San Diego, Cal.  
 A. S.—Viau, B. H.—Submarine Base, San Pedro.  
 A. S.—Visalli, J.—Mare Island Navy Yard.  
 P. A. S.—Voorhees, H. M.  
 A. S.—Wier, T. F.—Submarine Base, San Pedro, Cal.  
 P. A. S.—Williams, J. M.—Unit No. 2.  
 S.—Baker, M. W.—12th Naval Dist., Headquarters Room 405, Sheldon Bldg., San Francisco.  
 Castlehun, Paul—N. N. V.  
 Leland, T. B. W.—N. N. V.

## WEEDING OUT INCOMPETENT OFFICERS.

Surgeon General of the Army, William C. Gorgas, has ordered that steps be taken for the elimination from the service of all incompetent medical officers. In this category will be placed officers not fully qualified to perform their duties because of mental and physical incapacity, bad habits, or laziness. Officers assigned to duties that they can not competently perform because of unsuitable previous training, will be transferred and tried in other positions. If then unable to do satisfactory work, they will be reported to the Surgeon General as unfit and sent before a board with a view to their discharge from the service.

Recognizing that a proportion of medical officers are not fully qualified to perform their duties because of physical disability, mental incapacity, temperamental unfitness, laziness, inability to command men, lack of education or proper training, all division surgeons, commanding officers of base hospitals and other medical officers having subordinates are directed to list those whose work has not been satisfactory. If mental incapacity is suspected, psychological examinations will be given to determine the fact. Systematic instruction in military hospitals is recommended to remedy incompetency due to poor training in the technic of professional work. The medical officers' training camps are relied upon to correct deficiencies other than professional incapacity.

Medical officers who have been transferred will be given proper instruction in their new work and will not be discharged from the service until their superiors are convinced that they can not become competent within a reasonable time. No action for discharge will be taken until they have failed in two lines of work—viz., the professional care of the sick and disabled and medical field work, the latter including camp sanitation, handling of men, first aid and transportation of wounded.

## NAVY CALLS FOR BINOCULARS.

The Navy is still in urgent need of binoculars, spy-glasses and telescopes. The use of the submarine has so changed naval warfare that more "eyes" are needed on every ship, in order that a constant and efficient lookout may be maintained. Sextants and chronometers are also urgently required.

Heretofore, the United States has been obliged to rely almost entirely upon foreign countries for its supply of such articles. These channels of supply are now closed, and as no stock is on hand in this country to meet the present emergency, it has become necessary to appeal to the patriotism of private owners, to furnish "eyes for the Navy."

Several weeks ago, an appeal was made through the daily press, resulting in the receipt of over

3,000 glasses of various kinds, the great majority of which has proven satisfactory for naval use. This number, however, is wholly insufficient, and the Navy needs many thousands more.

All articles should be securely tagged, giving the name and address of the donor, and forwarded by mail or express to the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, care of Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C., so that they may be acknowledged by him.

Articles not suitable for naval use will be returned to the sender. Those accepted will be keyed, so that the name and address of the donor, will be permanently recorded at the Navy Department, and every effort will be made to return them, with added historic interest, at the termination of the war. It is, of course, impossible to guarantee them against damage or loss.

## State Board of Medical Examiners

### EXCERPTS FROM OPINIONS OF LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Examiner for insurance company—not practising.

"An applicant has called at my office to obtain my opinion as to whether or not the occupation he is about to engage in requires a license to practice medicine within the State of California.

"The applicant is admitted to practice medicine in another state or states in the Union, but has not been admitted to California.

"He wants to act for a hospital association in both examining personally applicants for health and other matters of insurance and reporting to the company, and also in passing upon reports of other doctors who take examination in other places.

"The applicant does not intend to in any way treat the sick or afflicted, but simply to find out for the purposes of insurance as to whether or not they are sick or afflicted, or safe or dangerous risks. I do not feel that that requires any certificate.

"It is true it has been decided that the examination and diagnosis of disease are first steps in practicing medicine, but those cases were decided only when the practitioner went farther and prescribed or treated the patient. Consequently, I advise you that you may take the position that the applicant does not require a license for the work he professes to do."—(Excerpt from letter of Attorney to Board, April 10, 1913.)

Subdivision 12—unprofessional conduct—commission.

"The giving of a commission by a licentiate of the Board of Medical Examiners of this state could be legally construed as a violation of the provision of subdivision 12 of section 14 of the Medical Practice Act."—(Excerpt of letter of Attorney to Licentiate, February 5, 1916.)

### Massage.

"Anyone in this state who diagnoses, treats, operates or prescribes for any disease, injury or deformity, is guilty of violating the Medical Practice Act, as may be more specifically noted from a reading of section 17 of the Medical Practice Act, which is enclosed herein; however, one may

massage and not violate the law; i. e., if there is simply a rubbing of the body with no profession on the part of the rubber that the treatment will cure or aid an affliction or deformity, it is not a violation of the act. If, on the other hand, the manipulator or rubber pretends to cure, or assist in curing, or professes to remove the cause of disease, injury or deformity, etc., then it is a practice of a system, no matter what method may be used in such practice or treatment. In brief, any one who operates, diagnoses, treats, or prescribes, is practicing a system under this theory."—(Excerpt of letter of Attorney to Licentiate.)

## New Members

McClelland, J. H., San Francisco.  
Downes, Chas. S., San Francisco.  
Sewall, Chester D., San Francisco.  
Parker, Ashley S., Needles.  
Jackson, James A., San Diego.  
Bryan, Geo., Fullerton.  
Slaughter, K. J., Folsom City.

## Resigned

Mize, G. H., San Francisco.  
Pratt, J. P., San Francisco.

## Transferred

Rogers, J. B., Napa, from Placer Co.

## Deaths

Benjamin, F. W., of Alameda, Cal.; Berkshire Med. Coll., '60, (C) '81; a veteran of the Civil War; died at his home, 2139 Buena Vista Ave., Dec. 23, 1917, aged 83.

Finley, Theodore Gawn, Los Angeles; University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 1908; a fellow of the American Medical Association; formerly assistant superintendent of the Los Angeles County Hospital; surgeon of the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation; died at the Sisters' Hospital, Los Angeles, Dec. 17, 1917, aged 42.

Burns, Matilda Watson, died in San Francisco, Dec. 25, 1917, aged 64; cause, cerebral hemorrhage. She was a graduate of the Cooper Medical College and had practiced medicine and conducted a drug store in San Francisco for over thirty years.

Dow, Phineas K., of San Jose; St. Louis Med. Coll., '80, (C) '86; died Dec. 11, 1917, aged 82.

Mertzman, B. F.; Hahnemann Med. Coll., Philadelphia, Pa.; died in San Diego, Cal., July 23, 1916, aged 61.

Reed, William Boardman, M. D., Alhambra, Cal.; University of Pennsylvania, Phila., 1878; aged 75; formerly a Fellow of the American Medical Association; a veteran of the Civil War, and a well-known specialist on diseases of the digestive system; for many years a resident of Atlantic City, N. J.; at one time a member of the editorial staff of the Philadelphia Press; who went to California on account of ill-health in 1909, and suffered a cerebral hemorrhage in 1913; died at his home, October 31.—A. M. A. Jour., Dec. 1, 1917.

Claire, W. Murphy, M. D., Los Angeles; University of California, Los Angeles, 1891; aged 47; formerly a Fellow of the American Medical Association; a member of the Medical Society of the State of California; instructor in anatomy in his alma mater; died at his home, Nov. 24.—A. M. A. Jour., Dec. 15, 1917.